

Dr Janet Metcalfe  
Chair and Head, Vitae

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Dear Janet

**Researcher Development Statement**

I am writing to formally advise you that UCU's Higher Education Committee, at its meeting on 8 October, agreed to endorse the Researcher Development Statement.

UCU's view is that the Researcher Development Framework has the potential to support researchers in their professional and career development as a CPD tool. However, as you know, we would be opposed to any attempts to use the tool as a performance appraisal (or similar) tool by research managers.

We are happy to be supporting Vitae in this work and will publicise the RDF to our members, and in particular to our research members, and will forward any feedback to you.

Whilst supporting this work, I would however re-iterate our view that the lack of security in employment remains the largest impediment to meaningful researcher careers within the HE sector.

Yours sincerely,



**Michael MacNeil**  
**Head of Higher Education**

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